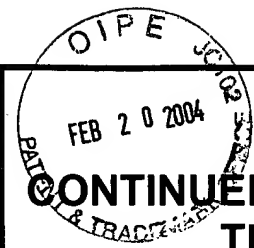


RCE/2700#11/3/2/04



**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

To Commissioner For Patents  
Please enter the following submission and withdraw the finality of the proceeding office action or withdraw any pending appeal and reopen prosecution before the Examiner.

Applicant Number	09/574,449
Filing Date	May 19, 2000
First Named Inventor	Tom T. De Groot
Group Art Unit	2614
Examiner Name	Trang U. Tran
Attorney Docket Number	B 34,345

This is an RCE under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application (which is made prior to: payment of issue fee; abandonment; notice of appeal to the CAFC; or commencement of civil action under 35 U.S.C. 145 or 146.)

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on January 12, 2004  
Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) + 3 References
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (may not be a brief)

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Technology Center, 2600

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (May not exceed 3 months; Fee required per 37 C.F.R. § 1.117(i))
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

- a. ☒ The Commissioner For Patents is hereby authorized to charge all required fees except the issue fee or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. **14-1270**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print Type)	Daniel J. Piotrowski	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,079
Signature		Date	2/16/04

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Mail Stop RCE, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office tel# : \_\_\_\_\_ on the date below:

Name (Print Type)	Edna Chapa	Date	2/18/04
Signature			